

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL
2014 - 2015 Grant Projects (Revised 11-1-14)

Agency / Grant Title [Program Year]	Funds	Counties Served	Program Description
<i>EMPLOYMENT</i>			
Center for Disability Resources, Department of Pediatrics, USC School of Medicine S.C. Transition and Employment Advancement Model (SC-TEAM) [3]	\$106,666	Statewide	In Year 3, SC-TEAM will expand its transition instructional models into two South Carolina high schools, at least one of which is located in a county that meets the federal government's official statistical definition of poverty. Capacity will be built by disseminating the models (curricular packages/replication models) to stakeholders.
Community Options Inc. A Community Options STEP for South Carolina [2]	\$40,625	Lexington, Richland	A STEP (School-to-Employment Program) job coach is supervising and training high school students at work sites in the community, helping them to acquire the physical, intellectual, emotional, and social skills they will need for gainful employment. In its second year STEP will secure additional job sites and at least one more school district for the program.
York School District One Students + Job Coach = Job Success [2]	\$27,043	York	A job coach is working with the Chamber of Commerce and Rotary Club on a business development initiative to build awareness of the program and create networking opportunities. These activities are helping to secure placements for students in job shadowing and internships.
Project Hope Foundation Inc. Virtual Hope [2]	\$32,498	Greenville, Spartanburg	The program provides a path to high school graduation for students with autism spectrum disorders. The students will use a virtual curriculum provided through a public charter school. The curriculum will be taught in a classroom setting and be supplemented with individualized academic tutorials. Goals are a high school diploma and job skills.
SOS Health Care Inc. Consignment Shop, Job Training & Day Center [2]	\$45,907	Georgetown, Horry	A consignment store is providing employment skills training and experience for approximately 20 individuals, ages 16-22, who are diagnosed with autism spectrum disorders. A job skill development plan will be created for each participant. Job assignments will be a part of the training, and highly trained job coaches will provide training and support.
Able South Carolina Project Inclusion [1]	\$28,333	Abbeville and Union; third site to be identified	Independent Living Specialists work with high school students, their family members, school personnel, and community professionals to promote self-advocacy and goal setting, support from family members, empowerment in the educational setting, and value of including people with disabilities in the workplace. The Independent Living Specialists are former students who have disabilities.

Arts Access South Carolina Project R.E.A.L. (Recruiting Entrepreneurs for Advocacy and Leadership) [1]	\$40,000	13 counties; statewide events	Future entrepreneurs will be recruited to increase job opportunities in the arts for high school students and young adults who have developmental disabilities. Through use of visual, literary, culinary and performing arts, students will be trained and encouraged to use their creativity to become future leaders and advocates in the arts community.
Clover School District (York 2) Ready, Set to Go to Work [1]	\$37,500	York, Chester, Lancaster	The initial focus of Ready, Set to Go to Work will be on training for teachers and other school staff to facilitate work experiences for youth with developmental disabilities. Assistance will then be provided to youth in middle school, high school, and students transitioning from the Occupational Credential program who require additional assistance to transition to employment or post-secondary education.
Arc of the Midlands Project SEARCH [1]	\$58,868	Lexington (initially)	The Project SEARCH High School Transition Program serves students with significant disabilities who are 18 to 21 years of age and in their last year of high school. Program participants spend this final year of high school interning at a local business to learn marketable and transferable work skills. The goal of the program is competitive, integrated employment, non-seasonal, at prevailing wage or higher, within three months of graduation.
Able SC Mapping Your Future	\$29,478	Statewide	Mapping Your Future is a two-day conference. The conference will provide strategies for self-determination to students, as well as strategies to strengthen family support and empower the young adult's independence. Attendees will also learn their rights and responsibilities while in school. The professionals will be empowered by hearing stories of successful transitions, learning about resources in SC and learning strategies to empower their students for success.

COMMUNITY SUPPORTS			
Family Connection of S.C. Inc. Wait List Support Project [3]	\$26,203	Aiken, Lee, Georgetown, Jasper, Oconee	Families will obtain increased knowledge about resources and support services for their family members, a greater sense of community and connection, and some relief from caregiving. Each caregiver will get the opportunity to participate in a one-on-one discussion about community and statewide resources available to them. During a respite event, children and adults with intellectual disabilities/developmental disabilities can participate in supervised activities, be entertained, or just have fun.
Arc of South Carolina Rec-Connect/ArcWorks [2]	\$30,778	Statewide	This project revolves around creating a recreational and social club for adults with intellectual disabilities/developmental disabilities. Art activities will be offered, as well as outings across the state designed to be engaging and fun. The project will strive to promote self-confidence, positive relationships, and a sense of belonging among its members. It will also foster independence and success in the community.
Project HOPE Foundation Extended Hope [2]	\$32,500	Greenville, Spartanburg	The focus of Extended Hope will be on building socialization skills for children, youth and adults with autism spectrum disorders. One-on-one and group methods will be used. Opportunities will be provided to practice learned skills in real life settings. Activities will include classes, social groups, community outings, partnering with peers, art classes, and dog training classes.
Arc of South Carolina Life Lessons [1]	\$40,000	Statewide	Life Lessons will teach parents and professionals how to engage adults with intellectual disabilities in conversation about general sexual health, increase the individuals' knowledge about sexual health, and help parents and professionals to handle inappropriate sexual behaviors should they occur. The program is designed to benefit adults with intellectual disabilities age 21 and up.
Arc of the Midlands Kick It! [1]	\$34,459	17 counties	Kick It! will offer karate instruction to individuals with disabilities in the age groups of 14 years and under, and 14 and up. The classes are expected to increase social assertiveness and cooperation, improve balance and coordination, increase eye contact, improve self-confidence, foster respect for others, and result in new friendships. Integration into mainstream programs is anticipated after a few months.
Arc of the Midlands Mixed Greens [1]	\$32,098.60	17 counties	Mixed Greens will teach gardening skills to individuals with ID/DD and provide the opportunity to participate in community garden and service projects. There will be related social and recreational activities, as well as networking with the public, local businesses, staff and volunteers. One of several projects calls for helping children to plant seeds at Saturday farmer's markets and watch their plants grow from week to week; another will lead to beautification of community landscapes.

Disability Resource Center Independent Living Skills/Sensory Stimulation Pilot Program [1]	\$14,368.22	Berkeley, Charleston, Dorchester, Williamsburg	To reinforce skills learned in school that can fall by the wayside once the school years are over, the Disability Resource Center will provide a sensory development program to improve communication and quality of life in individuals with severe ID/DD. For individuals with less severe disabilities, a daily living skills program will reinforce what was already learned and teach new skills for daily living.
Roger C. Peace Rehabilitation Hospital UCAN: Community [1]	\$40,000	Anderson, Greenville, Laurens, Oconee, Pickens, Spartanburg	UCAN: Community will increase social connectedness for persons disabled by head injuries, spinal cord injuries, and stroke. Adaptive recreational activities will allow participation in a broad range of sports and social activities. The social capital model will be used to identify community-based gatekeepers as a way to integrate individuals with disabilities into existing recreational and social opportunities.
Current Transitions Eagle Project [1]	\$15,284.20	Horry	Self-advocates will improve their communication and socialization skills using role playing and video modeling developed by James Stanfield. The skills will be practiced in the community during non-threatening activities. The goal is to prevent social and communication breakdowns when self-advocates are away from their classrooms and more familiar supports.

<i>HEALTH</i>			
Lander University Equestrian Center Awareness of and Opportunities for Equine-Assisted Activities and Therapies [3]	\$25,000	Abbeville, Greenwood, Laurens	Children and adults with disabilities receive equine-assisted therapy (therapeutic horseback riding) and ride for recreation. The Burton Center is a partner, identifying the DDSN consumers who participate and providing the property where the program and horses are housed. Students in local special education classes also participate.
The Therapy Place Bridges at The Therapy Place [1]	\$50,000	Lexington, Richland, York	Bridges provides an innovative and holistic approach to therapy combining special education methods with physical, occupational and speech therapies. The program helps children with developmental delays to gain independence by improving their mobility, social skills, and daily living skills. College students from related disciplines serve as interns.
Babcock Center Everybody Talks [2]	\$47,115	Lexington, Richland	Individualized augmentative communication systems will be developed to improve the communication skills of 20 adults with intellectual disabilities/developmental disabilities. More effective communication will lead to improvements in social skills and overall preparedness for participating in community life. Components will include thorough evaluations of communication needs, intensive training, and follow-up with participants and their caregivers.
York County Adult Day Care Services Move to Wellness [3]	\$35,000	Chester, Lancaster, York	Move to Wellness is an exercise and nutrition awareness program to prevent secondary conditions and improve the overall health and quality of life of consumers with ID/DD. It is based at a day program, but staff members also work with the participants' families or other caregivers to encourage healthful eating and physical activity while they are at home. A reward system will be explored in the final year.
Bamberg County DSN Board Promoting Better Eating and Exercise [3]	\$18,525	Bamberg	This project promotes more healthful lifestyles for consumers through nutrition, exercise, and stress management training and practice. Organic gardens are cultivated at several residences and the board's office. Consumers, their family members and direct care staff learn to make more healthful food selections, reduce the size of meal portions, and apply guidelines to snacks. They receive health assessments as well as exercise opportunities.
Arc of South Carolina Walk This Way [2]	\$38,318	10 counties	Community based walking groups will be established to increase social supports for individuals with ID/DD who want to improve their health and activity habits. Companionship, encouragement, and support will increase their awareness about the benefits of exercise and bolster their self-confidence. Overall fitness is expected to improve as levels of activity increase.

<i>SELF-ADVOCACY</i>			
Parents Reaching Out to Parents of SC (PRO-Parents) Partners in Policymaking™ [Ongoing]	\$89,818	Statewide	Partners in Policymaking™ provides grassroots leadership training for parents of children with disabilities, and adults who have ID/DD. The larger goal is to empower participants to become strong advocates – not only so they can make changes in their own lives, but to become leaders and effective advocates for disabilities systems change on local, state and national levels.
Parents Reaching Out to Parents of SC (PRO-Parents) Youth Leadership Forum [Ongoing]	\$10,650	Statewide	A three-day summer program for youth with disabilities who are still in high school or just graduated. The objectives are to build or strengthen the participants’ self-advocacy skills, self-confidence, and leadership skills for the purpose of remaining in school, graduating, obtaining post-secondary education (as appropriate), and obtaining employment that meets each individual’s maximum potential.
Center for Disability Resources, Department of Pediatrics, USC School of Medicine IMPACT SC Self-Advocacy Initiatives [Ongoing]	\$21,556	Statewide	The IMPACT SC Self-Advocacy group meets bi-monthly to explore and approve initiatives that enhance self-advocacy in South Carolina. Initiatives include selecting training materials, choosing speakers on topics critical to building successful self-advocacy, and attending training or conferences in and out of the state.
National Youth Leadership Network (NYLN) Self-Advocacy in SC: Power in Numbers [2] (ended 10-31-14 – See below)	\$40,000	Statewide	This NYLN partnership program is teaching young leaders to advocate for themselves and equip the larger disability community to work toward full inclusion. Members of the youth group EQUIP, trained by Able SC in self-advocacy, are working with other youth with disabilities to increase their awareness, self-confidence and skills.
Equip: Self-Advocacy & Leadership in Young Adults [Ongoing] (began 11-1-14 – See above)	\$30,000	Statewide	EQUIP is a Young Adult Leadership program focused on empowering young adults with disabilities ages 14-25 by showing them the skills necessary to build self-confidence, set and accomplish goals and become community activists. EQUIP is unique in its approach because its leaders are also young adults with disabilities who can directly relate to the group.